



Established 1858

TATTERSALL'S CLUB

Magazine

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
TATTERSALL'S CLUB, SYDNEY

FEBRUARY - - - 1952

Vol. 24

No. 12





Packard

brings back world-famous Freudenberg calf — the first for years

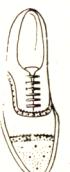


Freudenberg calf is soft, high-polishing

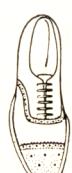
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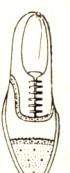
Long



Broad



Narrow



Short

Freudenberg calf polishes up like glass even after years of wear. It's soft, pliable, probably the world's finest. Packard imports it especially for their famous town shoes—the shoes that look as if they were hand-crafted. They're strongly stitched, because we know you like them that way. Choose from black or rich, reddish-brown Freudenberg calf.

Ask the man who wears them





Established 14th May, 1858

TATTERSALL'S CLUB

Sydney

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KEEPING POSTED

GEORGE MOUSALLY, travelling with Mrs. Mousally to the States and Canada, writes late in December from Vancouver, enclosing a copy of the Vancouver "Sun." His enthusiasm for Australia, and his efforts to correct the many erroneous impressions held about us in Canada, finally got to the ears of a local reporter, and the result was a feature article under the heading, "Our country is something to brag about," says Aussie." Mr. and Mrs. Mousally spent Christmas with relations in Vancouver; they will be returning here in a few weeks.

DAN MURRAY, with Mrs. Murray and their family and friends, had a very happy celebration at Dinner in the Club on January 17. The occasion was a sort of halfway-house between silver and golden weddings — their 35th wedding anniversary; a very real reason for celebration.

RETURN of world travellers: Stan Ravenscroft, back a week or two ago. Also Bruce Campbell, still being welcomed by his friends after a tour of England and the Continent. And Ernie Head, back from his annual trip to England.

WE missed Jim Cromwell around the Club for a while. Off colour for a few weeks, he is now fit again and back in his usual place.

NEW Blood at Bowls: Mr. Jack Holmes has joined the upper set, making his third appearance on the green. Bowled like a champ, a likely looking lead, with a natural follow through. His style is somewhat similar to Jack K. Monro, who's "Whirl On."

THE "Olympian," magazine of our associated Club, the Olympic of San Francisco, has quite a few paragraphs about Alby Staenard, who has now moved permanently to San Francisco. Staenard has been singing the praises of our class boxers, and quoting to the doubters the quality of the Australians who fought in the States in years gone by. He mentions Peter Jackson — the original Peter Jackson, whose battle with Jim Corbett is among the ring classics; Robert Fitzsimmons, and Griffio. No mention, apparently, of Darcy or Sands.

ARTURH GREENHALGH'S horse, True Leader, is having a grand run of wins — and Arthur is making sure that friends in Newcastle and in the Club will share his good fortune. After taking the Sefton Handicap at Randwick on 12th January, True Leader easily won the Challenge Stakes (6 furlongs), main event of the meeting on 26th January. Blue Flag was second, Chastise third. (See photograph, inside back cover).

Happy Birthday
to You!

FEBRUARY

1 W. T. Wood	17 W. W. Rogers
2 E. E. Hirst	18 H. Israel
A. V. Miller	19 J. D. Hathaway
5 Dr. R. J. Kris-	20 B. Marks
tenson	21 C. E. Fortescue
Bruce Chiene	22 Eric Steel
6 C. O. Chambers	23 P. A. Shields
T. S. Prescott	24 J. W. G. Muir
Harry Plant	25 G. M. Nacard
7 Con G. Murray	26 N. H. Bishop
8 A. J. M. Kelly	27 S. C. Canfield
9 A. E. Crutten-	28 K. Holmes
den	29 S. Goldhill.
10 H. Bonomini	J. K. Monro
R. C. Brown	N. Wheeler
13 H. Norton	29 J. G. O'Brien

MARCH

2 W. H. Lannen	16 S. A. Willmott
4 Roy Hendy,	H. B. Jones
C.M.G.	17 George A. Pratten
H. L. Lambert	18 H. R. Leeder
5 F. J. Carberry	20 L. R. Harrison
I. M. Davis	R. C. Beveridge
6 A. A. Ritchie	Dr. A. R. Col-
V. C. Bear	well
Vincent Carroll	21 J. Downman
J. A. Fraser	22 E. L. Callaway
7 M. E. Hazell	Jack Allen
G. W. Mills	J. A. Driscoll
E. R. Theodore	23 T. A. Greaves
8 Eric Clegg	25 J. Broadbent
10 A. G. Collins	Mark Whirby
11 J. H. E.	26 J. A. Roles
Nathan	M. Frank Albert
G. H. Edwards	S. Goldberg
A. A. Ray	12 Alan W. Arm-
	strong
14 G. W. Savage	27 S. E. Allen
15 E. A. Moore	29 G. J. C. Moore
	31 J. L. McDermott

Members are invited to notify the Secretary of the date of their Birthday.

NAT SEAMONDS, writing from New York, asks to be remembered to members — as though we could ever forget him and his cheerful personality!

MORE late congratulations — but not too late—to Charlie Munro, who was honoured by the King in the New Year's List, with the M.B.E. Charlie's work for the A.C.F. during the War is too well known to need repetition, but it is fitting that it should be properly and officially recognised in such a pleasant way.

CHAIRMAN John Hickey is so genial and ubiquitous that he can scarcely miss a day from the Club without his absence being widely noticed. At the time of writing he has been indisposed for a few days, and it may be a few more before he is back with us again. All members will join in hoping that his full recovery is not long postponed.

IN conformity with the Committee's desire to improve the amenities of the Club, a new rubber-tile floor is to be laid through the second-floor billiards room. The room will be closed to play for a short while from Wednesday, 13th February. But, as with the new lifts, members' patience will be well rewarded.

TO fill the vacancy due to the death of Committeeman A. J. Matthews, the following members have been nominated for the Committee: Fidden, Kenneth Francis Evans; Hidden, Francis Charles; Hutchinson, Ralph; Vandenberg, Ernest Wall.

WE announce with pride and pleasure that the date has been set for the annual match between Brisbane Tattersall's "Back-Seaters" and our cricket eleven—March 4. The venue this time will be Sydney, and, as usual, the battle will take

place at Sydney Cricket Ground. This time, the demon bowler, Hospitality, will be on our side, and we hope that we can equal our Brisbane confreres in that respect. Win, lose or draw, the match will be an epic; the Queenslanders will be all out to avenge the narrow defeat they suffered in Brisbane at our hands last year.

LAST reported at Colombo, Barney Fay is on his way back from overseas by ship. He will probably have arrived by the time you read this — regaling us again with his good tales of men and manners in the places he's just been to.

IF you're wondering where he has disappeared to, Bill Skelsey is now the very busy and efficient host at Lansdowne Inn. The Inn will be remembered as Romano's road-house near Liverpool.

CONGRATULATIONS were in order for Ernie Vandenberg, but were missed in last month's magazine: his son took high Leaving Honours at Seots, and rated special mention in the daily papers.

EDITORIAL: A Great Sportsman

Perhaps the most remarkable of the many remarkable tributes to King George VI was that of an American sporting writer—remarkable, not only because of its literary quality and spontaneity, but because of its environment.

Tributes to Royalty, living and dead, are usually reserved for the stately leading columns. There the writers have authority and appeal above and beyond ordinary reporters and reports. They are boon companions of "High Policy," which would never, never deign to express itself in sections devoted to general reading.

Besides which, the sporting pages do not aspire to enter the Editorial realm of subject matter, and would ordinarily be concerned with Royalty only as with George VI as racing patron, King

Alphonso as polo player and King Gustav at tennis.

This American writer, however, was so moved by the King's personal qualities and qualifications, by his Majesty's allegiance to the code of sportsmanship, that he paid him a sportsman's tribute, irrespective of the King's rank and nationality.

King George had played the game, and this was remembered by other peoples on his passing. Richer in human values than the grand processions, the fanfares, was this American tribute—spontaneous, simple, sincere.

The lesson it teaches is that sportsmanship is more than a sporting code. It is a rule of life. Those who follow it, as did King George VI, win renown in unexpected places, and their memory remains as an unfading palm.

Draw for Club Championships

Since my last article, we have lost a friend; I refer to the Patron of our Handball Club, Mr. A. J. (Joe) Matthews, who died suddenly on January 11th. When describing the final game in the "Winooka Trophy Competition," I mentioned that amongst those present as spectators, apparently hale and hearty, was Mr. Matthews, who donated the trophy for this event, and we were very happy to see him there.

WE extend our sympathy to his family and can assure them that his loss will be keenly felt by all who knew him for what he was — a fine gentleman and a sportsman to the finish.

Well, the shouting and tumult for the "Winooka Trophy" have died down with Eddie Davis the winner and, as I forecast, the

Club Championships are now under way. The Draw is as follows:—

A Grade:

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| G. McGilvray | v. J. W. Buckle |
| B. Partridge | v. C. Woodfield |
| P. Lindsay | v. W. Hannan |
| A. McCamley | v. E. E. Davis |
| Z. Lazarus | v. 1st Round Bye |

B Grade:

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| F. Harvie | v. J. D. Jenner |
| G. Boulton | v. H. E. Davis |
| W. Kirwan | v. L. Fingleton |
| M. Sellen | v. E. Thompson |
| C. Chatterton | v. J. O. Dexter |
| Norm Barrell | v. G. Eastment |
| G. Goldie | v. 1st Round Bye |

C Grade:

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| L. A. Silk | v. A. K. Webber |
| M. Fuller | v. S. B. Solomon |
| K. Francis | v. N. P. Murphy |
| J. Shaffran | v. Neill Barrell |
| S. Murray | v. H. J. Eizenberg |
| B. Adams | v. G. Pratten |
| W. B. Phillips | v. 1st Round Bye |

The boys are very keen and practice has begun in earnest. The field for the A Grade, although small, is select and it is difficult to choose the winner. Perhaps a likely quartet to fight it out will be George McGilvray, Bruce Partridge, Peter Lindsay and Eddie Davis — from there you can take your choice.

In the B Grade, several players have been given a chance to win a major competition, and this promises to be the keenest B Grade competition ever staged by the Club. Several with chances are: Fred Harvie, Harry Davis, Andy Magill, John Dexter, Bill Sellen, Geoff. Eastment, Bill Kirwan and Gordon Boulton, and the final result can easily be a big surprise.

The C Graders are also well balanced and keen competition is expected in this grade. Likely place-getters are: Ken Francis, Malcolm Fuller, Stewart Murray, Neill Barrell and Graham Pratten.

However, here's to some very happy games and may the best men win.



TATTERSALL'S CLUB
157 ELIZABETH STREET,
SYDNEY

NOTICE is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the Members will be held in the Club Room on Wednesday, 27th February, 1952, at 5.30 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of electing a member to fill the casual vacancy on the Committee caused by the death of Mr. A. J. Matthews.

By Order of the Committee,

M. D. J. DAWSON,

Secretary.

1st February, 1952.

BOWLING NOTES



We Look Forward to Record Year in 1952

Xmas and New Year holidays behind us, the Club is again in top gear, and although only one match was played during January, the weekly roll up games at Double Bay have been well attended. New recruit, Jack Holmes, has been a regular attendant, and shows promise of becoming a top class bowler.

HON. Secretary Bill Hole has arranged a lengthy list of fixtures for 1952, and we have a really busy year ahead.

On January 17 we were the guests of Cinema Industries at Kensington Club, and a match of four rinks a side was played. The game was keenly contested, Tatts. winning by 13 shots. One of our own members, Roy Barmby, playing for C.I., played devastating bowls to defeat Harold Hill. Alf Bloomfield and his rink put up an outstanding performance to win 32-16 after being down 10 nil on the 6th end.

Details: Glynn, Chatterton, Collins, Bloomfield (T.), 32;

McGregor-Lowndes, Nix, Chivers, Hinton (C.I.), 16. Quinton, Silk, Peters, Hill (T.), 19; Graham, Granger, Laurantus, Barmby (C.I.), 29. Bavinton, Monro, Davis, Eaton (T.), 30; Williams, Drewett, Mays, Cessill, (C.I.), 22. Saulwick, Williams, Kreiger, Roles (T.), 22; McPherson, Herbst, Martin, Webster (C.I.), 23. Totals: Tattersalls 103, Cinema Industries 90.

Kensington Club gave us a warm welcome and kindly provided a game for four extra players not participating in the match.

On Sunday, January 13, a number of our bowlers playing with a Double Bay team spent a

most enjoyable day at Wentworth Falls, and participated in the Scragg's Trophy. Those who made the trip were Jack Roles, Issie Silk, Joe Saulwick, Ken Williams and Ted Dewdney. Jack Roles, by the way, is doing very well as a pennant skipper for Double Bay. Our genial V.P., Charlie Young, has not quite recovered from his recent operation, but is well on the way and will be back rolling them up with us before long.

On Sunday, January 20, a big pairs game was played at Double Bay—Ken Williams and Jack Monro v. Stan Chatterton and Johnnie Ruthven. The old firm again emerged victorious and await further challenges.



DINING and LOUNGE ROOM

Fourth Floor

Dine and Wine in the well-appointed
Dining and Lounge Rooms

LUNCHEON (Monday to Friday) ... 12.30 to 2 p.m.
DINNER (Monday to Friday) 6 to 8 p.m.
DINNER (Saturday) 6 to 8.30 p.m.

Dance Nights

Thursdays, 6.15 to
8.15 p.m.

SATURDAYS, 6.15
to 11 p.m.

Club Loses Capable and Hard-working Committeeman

UNTIMELY DEATH OF MR. A. J. MATTHEWS

Many years ago, when Elizabeth the First was on the throne of England, a poet named John Donne wrote a verse that began "No man is an island . . ." and went on to say that the death of any man, with his experience, his knowledge gained over a lifetime, was a loss to all the human race — whether they were among his friends or not. "So do not ask for whom the bell tolls, stranger—It tolls for thee."

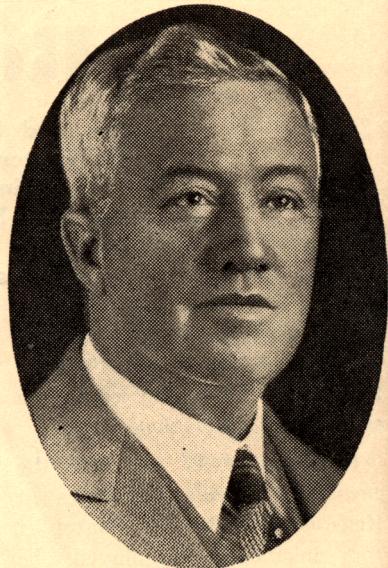
AND that is true. Even greater is the loss in a smaller community such as this Club; when a member dies, we are all the poorer because we lose what that man has contributed toward the Club — in friendliness, in helpfulness, in service, in wisdom.

We are, therefore, indeed bereaved by the sudden death of Joe Matthews. For Joe Matthews had given a great deal to the Club in his thirty-four years of membership, quite apart from the personal friendships formed and cemented by many acts of kindness. He was elected a member in 1918, and served on the Committee from 1939 until his death. A wise man, a friendly and kindly man, a man who thought more about giving than getting.

Joe Matthews was born at Yeoval, a little country town about forty miles south of Dubbo. Although he spent so much of his life in or about Sydney, and practised one of the most metropolitan of professions, he was always of the

country, both in his manners and in his preferences. As a lad, he spent some time at Parkes, and gained an interest in a country hotel. But he started making a book at a very early age, and built up quite a thriving bookmaking business at Peak Hill, another small town about fifty miles from his birthplace. In this, he followed much the same pattern, but in a more modest way, as Jim Hackett—with whom he later formed a lasting friendship.

After a while, the pleasures of owning horses as well as holding a book gripped him. With his brother Tom, he raced several horses and finally got a performer named Cable News, which he and his brother thought good enough to try out in Sydney. They came down here in the early days of the century, and after a while Joe started fielding in Sydney, while still keeping on the business in Peak Hill. Like most bookmakers of that time, he fielded when and where he could make a book — at the



The Late Mr. A. J. Matthews

ponies, at provincial meetings; and later in the Paddock at Randwick.

As he gained success, Joe Matthews' interests widened — or rather he found the leisure and the finance to develop the things he had always wanted to do. For he was a great man with animals, he understood them, loved them, enjoyed working with them. He continued to race horses, then took to breeding them. His Waratah stud at Peak Hill, though not the largest by any means, is well and favourably known. Sires at Waratah included Winooka, Gilt Edge, Bourbon and Undertow—a full brother of Snowstream — and others. Probably the best horse

he raced was Winooka, with Fujisan a close second.

Winooka, a Windbag horse out of Kanooka, won a number of races, including the Caulfield Futurity Stakes, A.J.C. Doncaster, A.J.C. All Aged Stakes, all in 1933. Joe and his partner, W. A. McDonald, took the horse to the States in 1933, but he never struck his best form there. Fujisan, another class performer, was backed for a fortune for the Doncaster of 1929, but was just beaten by Amounis. Yeoval, bred by Joe at Waratah, sired by Bourbon out of Spear Lily, and now being raced by Mick Polson, is another first class horse—named, of course, after Joe's birthplace.

Joe Matthews' interests went far further than racing stock. He had other properties in the Peak Hill district, and again up in New England at Wincombe, Bundara. He bred sheep and cattle, and proved that he had the same sure touch with utility beasts as with thoroughbreds.

In recent years he lived

in Warangi Street, Turramurra, but every day he could spare was spent on one or other of his country properties. He was a man who liked the smell of pasture in the early morning, the feel of a good hack under him, the open hills and the wide sky. He enjoyed husbandry of land and animals; trying in this, as in other aspects of his life, to give more than he took.

He played golf now and again, but not recently. He belonged to many associations, and gave them the benefit of his help and experience without any thought of reward. In himself, he was modest and his tastes were simple. Perhaps the least one could say of him is that no one ever asked him for help and came away empty-handed. He was generous to a degree — of his time, of his knowledge, and if the need was there, of his money.

The thirteenth of February this year would have been his 67th birthday.

J. EMANUEL

JACK EMANUEL, paddock bookmaker for many years, member of this club since 1945, died in Berrima District Hospital, Bowral, on December 20, regretted by a large circle of friends.

Jack had a distinction of which few were aware: winner of the Military Medal and Bar in World War I, fighting with the 17th Battalion.

Military men know that the Bar to a decoration is awarded only in extraordinary circumstances. Jack really was of the elect of the extraordinary, although his quiet demeanor gave no suggestion of that quality, or of the stout heart that beat within a kindly, sentimental personality.



BOOKING OFFICE FIRST FLOOR

A Booking Office is operating for the convenience of Members.

Members requiring plane travel, theatre or stadium seats, hire cars or floral work may call or 'phone.

HOURS :

Mon. to Fri.: 11.30 to 2.30, 3.30 to 7.45; Saturdays : 11 to 2.30, 3.30 to 7.

M. D. J. DAWSON, Secretary.

Night Trotting is Latest Boom

1952 is the Jubilee year of the N.S.W. Trotting Club and it is fitting that this year will be the biggest in the history of the light harness sport in this State.

FOR the first time since their inception in 1936 the Inter-Dominion Championships will be held at Harold Park, Sydney, venue of Sydney's new "boom" sport, night trotting.

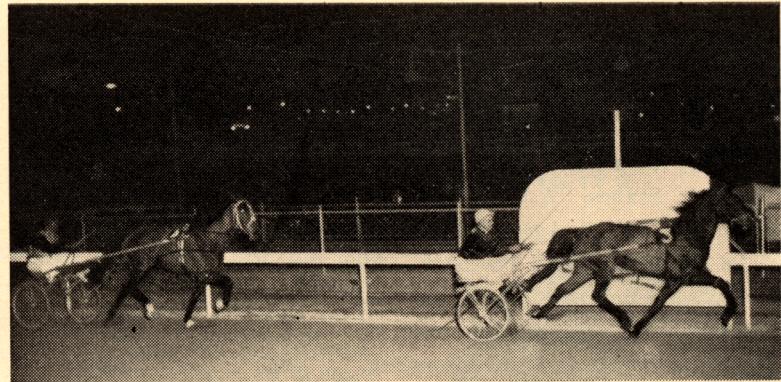
£34,000 prizemoney will be distributed over the four night carnival with £10,000 going to the final of the Pacing Championship.

Although trotting has been in progress for 50 years in N.S.W. it has always been the "Cinderella" sport of racing until night racing commenced on October 1, 1949.

The progress the sport has made since then is really remarkable. At the last day meeting at Harold Park on December 18, 1948, £655 prizemoney was given for a seven event program with barely 1,000 people in attendance.

This year alone the N.S.W. Trotting Club will distribute £200,000 prizemoney and average attendances at meetings at Harold Park are 20,000.

Minimum prizemoney for a single event is £500 and that is for a Qualifying Stakes, which is a Metropolitan Maiden race.



(Photo., courtesy "Sydney Morning Herald.")

It took some months before "racing under lights" really captured the imagination of the public, but now after a little more than two years the fans are just as keen as they are in other sports and know the form of all the pacers and trotters racing.

At the first night meeting just on £20,000 passed through the tote. This has risen to over £70,000 a rise of nearly 400 per cent.

The same can be said of bookmakers holdings. They have increased just the same, in fact some fielders are holding 10 times more than they did in the early nights of the sport.

This is mainly due to the keenness of punters and the fact that six and seven pacers are now being heavily supported in events.

So wide has become the betting that now it is quite a common thing to see 3/1 the field being bet on many races at Harold Park.

The Inter-Dominion Championship is a very important race this year for Australian breeders.

New Zealand horses in the past have dominated the event and pacers from the Dominion have won the last four "Melbourne Cups" of trotting. In fact at the last two champion-

ships N.Z. horses have filled the places in the Pacing Final.

The domination of N.Z. bred horses has naturally increased the value of N.Z. stock to the detriment of Australian breeders.

Since night trotting started in Sydney, many owners and trainers have visited N.Z. to buy pacers to race in N.S.W.

Main reason for the superiority of Dominion horses is the fact that four American sires, Josedale Grattan, Dillon Hall, U Scott and Light Brigade have had phenomenal success in the light harness sport.

The progeny of these sires who were all imported to N.Z. in the thirties have won every big race in the trotting world.

Jack Potts with £450,000 prizemoney won by his get still holds pride of place in Australasia, but U Scott who still has many years ahead of him has already sired winners of £360,000.

Lawn Derby the fastest Australian pacer ever to race and the only Australian horse to break two minutes for a mile has several of his progeny racing in the Championship and it will be a big boom for Australian breeding if one of them can win.

His best chances in the big race seem to be Avian Derby and Real Lawn.



IN AND OUT OF THE POOL

Popular Win for Bill Kirwan

No more popular victory has ever been hailed in the Pool than that of Bill Kirwan in the January Point Score.

BILL has, ever since the War, presented the "Native Son" trophies for the yearly Point Score but up to this season he has been content to watch the boys race each week, but all this season he has saddled up regularly for the contests with no end of success.

During January he was hailed victor in three events and his victory, in partnership with popular George Goldie, in the last race of the month, a Brace Relay, gave him the January Point Score trophy and it's a safe bet that there was nothing he will treasure more.

Our modest friend reckons that there must have been some non-triers behind him but he underestimates his own ability and he's going to win a lot more races, even though the Handicapper has cut down on him.

Clive Hoole, too, had a good month with a win and two seconds in finals, to finish only a point and a half behind Kirwan, and he's going to be hard to beat in the season's Point Score in which he now leads with 68 points from Bill Phillips 63½, Bill Kirwan 62½, Geoff Laforest 61½.

Phillips is going to miss a number of races through a trip to the Australian Swimming Championships this month, plus a probable trip to the Olympic Games in Helsinki later.

Whilst on the subject of the Olympic Games, congratulations are due to one of our swimmers, Keith Donald, who has been selected as manager of the Aus-

tralian Athletic team. We can imagine nobody better qualified for the position than Keith, whose personality has made him one of the most popular members of the Swimming Club.

There must have been something doing during the month when Keith was seen in earnest converse in the Pool with A.S.A. Secretary Sid Grange, who is first favourite for the position of manager of the Australian Swimming Team.

Looks as if a lot of the Pool people will be on tour soon as Cedric Emanuel leaves for a year's tour of Europe. His first call will be to do a lot of sketching in Italy and later he will take his sketch book where the will takes him all over Europe.

Handicapper John Gunton, too, is off for a trip to England and Europe in March and the Swimming Club wish both these prominent members most enjoyable times abroad.

Best heat winning times during the month were:—W. Kendall, 19 secs., M. Fuller, 20 secs., W. B. Phillips and C. Emanuel (twice), 21 secs., F. Harvie, 21.2 secs.

Results

8th January — 40 yards Handicap: 1st Division Final—W. Kirwan (28), 1, W. Kendall (19), 2, C. Emanuel (21), 3. Time 27.2 secs. 2nd Division Final—G. Eastment (24), 1, S. Lorking (23), 2, T. M. Wayland (25), 3. Time 23.2 secs.

15th January — 80 yards Brace Relay Handicap: G. Goldie

and C. Hoole (57), 1, A. K. Webber and J. Shaffran (49), 2, S. Murray and C. Emanuel (45), 3. Time 54.4 secs.

22nd January — 40 yards Handicap: 1st Division Final—J. Shaffran (23), 1, T. M. Wayland (25), 2, A. K. Webber (26), 3. Time 22.2 secs. 2nd Division Final — W. Kirwan (28), 1, C. Hoole (23), 2, F. Harvie (21), 3. Time 27 secs.

29th January—80 yards Brace Relay Handicap: G. Goldie and W. Kirwan (61), 1, S. Lorking and C. Hoole (46), 2, K. Francis and T. M. Wayland (46), 3. Time 59.6 secs.

January Point Score

This series resulted:—W. W. Kirwan, 27 points, 1; C. Hoole, 25½, 2; G. Goldie and T. M. Wayland, 23½, 3; J. Shaffran, 22, 5; S. Lorking, 21½, 6; A. K. Webber, 20, 7; W. B. Phillips, 17½, 8; S. Murray and C. Emanuel, 17, 9; G. Eastment, 16, 11; K. Francis, 15, 12; G. Laforest and J. O. Dexter, 14, 13.

1951-1952 Point Score

Leaders in this series, comprising all points gained during the season, are:—

C. Hoole, 68, W. B. Phillips, 63½, W. Kirwan, 62½, G. Laforest, 61½, J. Shaffran, 51, G. Goldie, 50½, G. Eastment, 50, A. K. Webber, 49½, Neil Barrell, 49, S. Lorking, 48½, S. Murray, 48, H. E. Davis, 44, C. Emanuel, 41½, T. M. Wayland, 41½, F. G. Harvie, 39½, J. N. Creer, 39, J. O. Dexter, 39, A. McCamley, 38½, P. Lindsay, 35, M. Sellen, 34½, S. B. Solomon, 31, K. Donald, 30½.

“Soft Ball Polo” is Anything but Soft

ORIGINAL WATER-POLO EMPLOYS TACTICS OF ALL-IN WRESTLING IN BREATH-TAKING WAY

Swimming, as a competitive sport, is one of the youngest branches of athletics. And even younger than swimming is the game of water polo. Australia is a fairly new entrant into the international field of water polo—the first Australian Olympic team went to the London Games in 1948; and we are not yet practiced enough in teamwork to have made much mark in the field. But in this article we intend to deal mostly with the rough and tough original game, now usually called Soft-Ball Polo. This version of the sport, in which there are very few rules short of murder, is still played in some of the more robust areas of the U.S. Once seen, it is never forgotten.

BACK in 1876, a couple of bloods from the Bournemouth Rowing Club in England got to throwing a Soccer ball around the clubrooms. Inevitably the ball found its way into the water; and just as inevitably the young fellows dived in after it. More followed, and soon the river was a mass of struggling rowers — the last noun pronounced any way you like.

It is not recorded that anyone was drowned during the melee, but it is told that as a result, two teams from the club engaged in an aquatic football match.

“Upon a given signal,” says the record, “both teams leaped with commendable agility from their boat and struck out for the ball of contention. Unfortunately, after a severe struggle, the ball burst; but the players, nothing daunted, and properly habited, continued to display their aquatic accomplishments for some time.”

That, at any rate, is the first recorded polo match — if you can call it a match. The game caught on quickly, and teams in America were soon playing with

enthusiasm. “House rules” were the order of the day, and some of those earlier versions were pretty tough. Two players who were experts in the first years of the century recently made some pithy comments when they were taken to a match under the new international rules.

One of them said: “I was amazed at what I saw. We used to touch the goal, a three-feet board, with the ball in our hand. To-day they throw the ball into a net similar to those used in ice-hockey.

“By introducing basketball with its strict rules, making the players play the ball and not the man, and calling fouls whenever a player so much as frowns at his opponent, they have managed to produce a fast, orderly and interesting game in the water.

“As a game, I consider it far superior to the old rough-and-tumble wrestling and drowning match of our day. Speed and strategy have replaced brawn and confusion and the crawl has made the game fast.

“However, I don’t think the

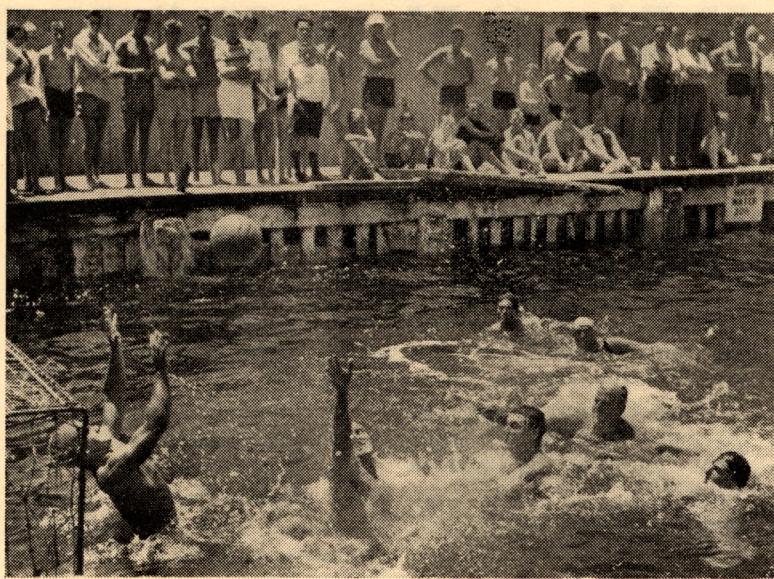
game is quite as much fun for the players and far less for the spectators.

“There was never an athletic event which caused more excitement and laughs, not even the modern version of wrestling, than the old game of water polo, when four or five players, with arms and legs entangled under the water, all started rolling over and over as one body with the ball lying peacefully on the surface under the goal, the crowd shrieking like mad; and the referee blowing his whistle in vain until the boys had to come up or drown.”

The thing about the old days was that the boys were playing a game called Soft Ball Polo. It will be taken as read, of course, that the adjective “soft” referred simply to the ball. In that game, the pool had maximum measurements of 70 feet by 40 feet and there were six players on each side. You could tackle, butt, charge, choke and gouge, and not even the referee—who as like as not was floating face-down in the far end of the pool, anyway—could show you the place in the book that said you couldn’t do it.

Star of water polo in America those days — and remembered in that game in the way that Messenger is remembered in Rugby League and Trumper in cricket — was Joe Ruddy.

Ruddy was one of the first Americans to take the game up. That was in the late 90’s, and



This is Water Polo, as played under International Rules. Picture shows the N.S.W. Championships.

(Photo., courtesy "Sydney Morning Herald")

he was still playing when he was 55 years of age. The Soft Polo game was right down Joe's alley, for he could hold his breath for almost four minutes — and in a battle of underwater tactics, such ability is of inestimable value, for it is somewhat reassuring to know that in the event of two competitors plunging to the baths bottom for a period, it will be the other fellow for whom the divers will go down.

In 1918, Ruddy — then far from being in the flush of youth — was spotted by an opposing goalkeeper who, as the veteran swam toward him, dived to the bottom, taking Ruddy with him. For a full minute all was still

and then the water thrashed as though the propeller of a giant liner were stirring the depths. Two minutes later, a bald head bobbed up, Ruddy scored the goal and dived beneath the water again to bring the unconscious goalie to the surface.

Ruddy cultivated a quaint habit of submitting to underwater throttling for the first minute he was dragged down, allowed his tongue to protrude until his opponent, mindful of homicide charges, loosed him. Then, as the latter made his way up top, Ruddy would grab his ankle and play water polo in earnest.

"I always like company down there," he explained simply.

The circumstance that professional wrestlers have resolutely turned from baths wrestling may be due to the hesitancy displayed by Wladek Zybyszko, an early-days mat nobleman, in accepting a challenge from Ruddy to meet him in water.

The match, indeed, was almost arranged, when Wladek took a sneak preview of Ruddy during a water polo match. Visibly shaken by the spectacle, the wrestling champion severed further negotiations.

While no agreement is signed by players that their entry into the game is made at their own risk and no claims may be submitted by heirs, it is tacitly agreed that no man should call for help while in process of being mayhem'd by an opponent; in fact, the average water polo performer would apparently prefer to have his friends ask: "What became of old Johnnie?" than indicate that he requires either the assistance of his friends or the referee. His turn, after all, will come.

As we have said, there are in Soft Water Polo, six players on each side. With this knowledge, the players in the New York-Boston Athletic Clubs were a little confused when their teams came from the water after a match in 1908, to discover that the grand total of performers was but ten. The answer came quickly to their minds.

Continued on Page 24

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SUMMARY OF SPORT

ATHLETICS

THE Australian athletic championships in Brisbane on January 26 and 28 and the Olympic trials in Sydney on February 2 were a big disappointment from an Olympic standard.

Sprinters John Treloar and Bill de Gruchy, quarter milers Edwin Carr and Kevin Gosper, and miler Don Macmillan had been recording near record-breaking trials, but they failed to produce their best form when the pressure was on.

Victorian hurdler Ray Weinberg was the only Australian to come through the big test with "flying colours."

He clocked 14 seconds in winning the Australian 120 hurdles title—a half second inside the Olympic Standard. He followed up the run with another good performance in Sydney, recording 14.2 over the same distance.

Weinberg's 14 seconds was a new Australian "record," which was disallowed owing to a slight following breeze.

The referee was inconsistent, for he allowed Hector Hogan's 9.6 to equal the Australian 100 yards record several minutes later when the breeze appeared to be the same.

John Treloar appears destined not to beat the Australian 100 yards resident record.

He has clocked 9.6 on no fewer than 16 occasions, to equal the record held by himself, Dr. Brian Dunn, the late Jimmy Carlton and John Bartram, but he can't get that extra dash to equal Lloyd La Beach's 9.5.

Burly Victorian Don Macmillan was hailed as the greatest miler of all time when he clocked 4.9

in Melbourne to register the second fastest time in the world this season.

The heat affected Macmillan in Brisbane, and the best he could do was 4.12-2/10ths.

He was beaten by John Landy (V.) in the Olympic trial.

Diminutive Victorian Les Perry was the "hero" of the Brisbane carnival.

He was cheered for three laps in winning the three mile national title. The big crowd were still clapping when he received the winning medallion and when he was leaving the arena.

Perry resembles a jockey in appearance, but he has the courage of a heavyweight fighter.

He lapped a field of star three-milers to win the title in record time and the run could gain him a place in the Olympic team.

Sprinter and quarter-miler Kevin Gosper, Empire Games 440 star, Edwin Carr, pole vaulter Peter Denton, high jumpers Doug Stuart and Merv Peter, broad and hop, step and jumper Peter Cox were N.S.W. stars whose times and distances were disappointing in Brisbane.

BOXING

MOST Australian followers of the boxing game have the belief Dave Sands is the only fighter from this country to have won a British Empire title. He gained this when he knocked Dick Turpin out in the first round at Haringay Arena, London, on September 6, 1949.

A publication from England shows Australians long have had an erroneous idea.

The 1952 annual of records,

produced by "Boxing News," credits Australian Ron Richards with winning the British Empire middleweight championship when he defeated Fred Henneberry at Sydney Stadium on February 26, 1940.

At the time of this fight there was no Empire middleweight title holder, Jock McAvoy, of England, having retired with the honour. Australia considered it had as much right as England or any other part of the Empire to promote a title match, but it was never really imagined the winner would receive England's recognition.

Melbourne's Bill Lang also figures in the parade of Empire champions. In the same publication he is listed as heavyweight title holder. He gained it by his win over England's Petty Officer Curran who was disqualified in the first round of their contest at Olympia, London, on January 18, 1911.

The champion preceding Lang, and named as the first "monarch" of the Empire heavyweight, was Tommy Burns.

Burns, a Canadian, still living, was regarded as the title holder by a 20 rounds points defeat of Lang in Sydney on April 11, 1910.

This was getting on for 16 months after Burns had lost his world title to Jack Johnson in the 14th round in Sydney in 1908.

RUGBY LEAGUE

ENGLAND and Australia have been wrangling over the Rugby League football rules. England wants changes. Australia doesn't.

TOPICS

in 60-second sketches

England believes the proposals will improve the game. Australia feels they will spoil the character of Rugby League.

But since the code sprang into operation in England's north in 1895 and the first Australian side went on tour in 1908 there have been alterations in the laws of the game which have increased its speed and spectacular appeal.

Australian officials fear some of the present suggestions will send it back.

The late Jim Giltinan, who managed the touring team of 1908, said the Australians surprised England with the novelty of numbers on the backs of their jerseys. The Englishmen did not wear numbers, but quickly adopted the idea.

Continuity of the game in Australia is maintained by the presence of three balls—one in action and boys on the touch lines each carrying a ball ready to be thrown on the field of play when the one in service is kicked out into the big spaces.

Only one ball usually is required in England. Grounds there are of a different pattern. They are rectangles and not large circular arenas as in Australia. Accommodation in England is close to the touch lines and the ball is quickly recovered.

Once upon a time only one ball was employed in Australia. "Dally" Messenger, immortalised as "The Master," recalls that often this was exploited by a team in the lead. A player would kick the ball out among supporters in the crowd. They would fumble with the ball, and delay its return, to waste time.

In the long ago there was actu-

ally no recognised hooker. First man puffing up to the serum spot became the hooker.

Now the hooker is a specialist. He must be practically as fast as a back to be always in the vital places.

RUGBY UNION

THE 1952 Rugby Union season will be one of vital importance to the game in Australia.

For the first time in history Australia will have a visit from a Fijian Rugby side while form in this season's matches will act as a guide in the selection of Australian teams for New Zealand and South Africa.

Australia expects to send a team to New Zealand in August

and September to toughen up players for the hard programme of South African matches the following winter.

The visit of the coloured (all players are natives) and colourful Fijian footballers will provide novel entertainment. They are sure to create an immense impression with their fine physique, great pace, whole-hearted exuberance and unpredictable unorthodoxy on the field.

Until recently most Fijians played in bare feet but now they have been persuaded to wear boots on the football field.

The Fijians amazed New Zealanders when they first toured
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there in 1939 and did not lose a match, the only team from any overseas country which has achieved this distinction against the mighty All Blacks. They did not play a Test but among their notable successes were wins of 17-11 against Auckland and 14-4 against the N.Z. Maoris.

One of their wingers Vorege was named among the "Five Players of the Year."

Last year the Fijians again toured New Zealand and thrilled the crowds with their daringly unorthodox and spectacular play.

One writer referred to them as "Fuzzy-Headed Dynamite." Their forward play certainly was marked by wild enthusiasm and against the famous Hawke's Bay Club, which produced such champions of the past as George Nepia and the Brownlie brothers, they twice knocked out giant second row forward "Tiny" White.

Second rower Tiny White was the toughest forward among the All Blacks on the tour of Australia last season and to knock him out would take some doing.

As a result the Fijian forwards are expected to provide a tough proposition for Australians Nick Shehadie, Alan Cameron, Nev Cottrell, Keith Cross, Jack Baxter and Company who did so well in the hectic forward duels with the All Blacks last year.

The Fijians last year beat Hawkes Bay 23-14, winger Joseva (Jo to you) Levula distinguishing himself by scoring what former N.Z. sole selector Norman McKenzie described as "one of the most spectacular and sensational tries I have ever seen on a football field."

"Jo" Levula, aged 20, 6 ft. 2in. and 13st., is a secondary school student. He has the true Rugby eye for a try with all the frills. In his speed he resembles

the American negro sprint star Jesse Owens.

The team in New Zealand last year had plenty of pace forward as well as back, though the average weight of the team was 13.8.

Fijian breakaway forward Semi Ralagi was in fact the sprint champion of the Fiji islands.

The Fijians are going to provide tongue twisters for the football broadcasters in the coming season as becomes apparent from the names already mentioned.

The Fijians' captain is George Cavalevu, shrewd and capable inside centre. Two of the best forwards among this happy band of sportsmen are Sailosi Valewai (hooker) and Savenaca Pe.

Further names, typical of the rest, to give announcers a headache are Joe Vugagi and Isimeil Radrodno, both lightweight champion fighters as well as international footballers.

SWIMMING

MANLY Amatuer Swimming Club, of which sensational young Barry Darke is a member, has issued a statement in which it supports coach Tom Penny's decision not to allow his brilliant young charge to represent Australia at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics.

In recent weeks Penny has stood up to broadsides of criticism from press and swim association officials alike, but his decision to keep Darke at home has been unshakable.

Now that the tumult has somewhat died down, Manly, through captain Alan Fitzgerald, produces a well nigh unanswerable case in favour of Penny.

In the first place, on times, Darke is not in Olympic class and at the very least there are four men who would finish in

front of him over 220, 440 and 1500 metres.

For instance Darke would not finish within ten seconds of countryman John Marshall over 220 yards. Marshall has clocked 7/10 secs. short of two minutes for the furlong compared with Darke's 2.14.

Japanese champion Furahashi, has beaten Marshall within the past 12 months as has Marshall's great American rival Glen Ford.

Australian Garrick Agnew now in America also is swimming seconds faster than Darke for 220.

Frenchman Alex Jany more than likely would finish ahead of Darke so that the brilliant young Australian would take a thrashing calculated to knock the confidence out of anyone let alone a teenager.

Over 440 yards Marshall could give Darke about 16 seconds—well over half a lap—start and still beat him.

Over 1500 metres Marshall could concede him a full minute.

Critics come back with the reply that no matter where he finished, the experience of an Olympiad would be invaluable to Darke's future career.

Manly, however, is prepared to back the judgment of Penny against this view.

The Manly angle is that Darke is the product of an experiment which has been going on to a set timetable for nine years. An experiment aimed at regaining for Australia world supremacy in distance swimming.

Fitzgerald, himself a former national surf belt champion, says that the experience Darke would gain overseas would not outweigh the advantage of the continuity maintained in his preparation by missing the games.

"By going to the games, Darke would seriously interrupt Penny's scheduled routine which aims at

the lad representing at the Empire Games in 1954 and then climaxing his career at the 1956 Olympics," said Fitzgerald.

"Penny has produced the goods with Darke and if he is allowed to continue to train and coach him as he desires, it is more than probable that Australian swimming as a whole will benefit terrifically.

"Darke is just a guinea pig in an experiment, which if it continues to be as successful as it has in the past few years, will have an impact on world swimming," said Fitzgerald.

"Apart from the fact that Darke is not in world class yet we also must respect the right of parents to have some say in what their children are to do.

"Mr. and Mrs. Darke consider that Barry is too young for an Olympic trip.

"Their opinion must be considered—in fact they alone should have the say."



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P.G.3.83

Ski Jumper who Flies High— and Falls Hard

Art Devlin, American Champion Ski Jumper, started at age of nine.

THE most exclusive fraternity in the United States is composed of some 2500 sun-bronzed and eminently carefree amateur sportsmen who have learned, as it were, how to fly without wings. The best-known member of this select society, and its leading offender against the law of gravity is a chunky, blue-eyed young man of 27, named Arthur Brenden Devlin. Devlin is a character who finds it perfectly reasonable to fling himself from a tower at 60 miles per hour, to float on nothingness for a heart-stopping few seconds, and then to drop lightly to earth with the ease of a bird. He is able to be nonchalant while airborne because he has mastered the art of ski jumping, one of the oldest and most spectacular of American sports.

In acquiring this mastery, a task which he began at the age of nine, Devlin has shattered one knee, broken both wrists and landed repeatedly on his head. Such Spartan schooling, which has made him America's greatest jumper, has also convinced him that there are arbitrary limits to the distance you can travel while buoyed up by nothing more substantial than a pair of skis eight feet long, four inches wide and less than an inch thick.

In 1950 he sailed 307 feet through the air to a graceful landing on the hill at Steamboat Springs, Colorado, one of the largest in the country. This prodigious leap established a new North American distance record. A little later he executed two almost flawless jumps of 211 and

220 feet on a much smaller hill at Banff, in the Canadian Rockies. Though a blizzard raged, he won the North American and Canadian championships that day, combining excellent style and maximum distance, the two criteria by which a competitor is judged. The per-

formance established him as the best American ski jumper, and as one of the best in the world.

To achieve his eminence, Devlin has merged a phenomenal sense of timing with a nonchalant attitude toward danger. Many jumpers, living cheek by

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jowl with disaster, are volatile—given to relieving their nervous strain by indulging in fist fights tantrums or fabulous drinking bouts. Devlin whose Irish ancestry should, in theory, make him susceptible, is noted instead for unvarying calm on the hill and a single-minded devotion to soft drinks while relaxing. These steady traits, plus 20/10 vision—twice as good as the average man's—should explain his success. But Devlin stubbornly gives the credit to an intangible.

"My finger tips do the job," he told a friend recently. "When they start to tingle I start to jump."

Practically all jumpers gauge the proper moment for the take-off by eye. Devlin, however, waits for a familiar sensation in his gloved hands before he starts to rise. When the tingling begins, he brings his arms backwards in a pendulum stroke. Then as he hurtles into the air above the knoll of the lower hill, he

Art Devlin (left) and other jumpers at the World Championships: Norway's Peter Hugsted, America's Art Tokle.



moves his hands slowly forward to preserve his balance. He kicks up his hips, sticks out his sweatered chest, and begins to relish what jumpers call the "float"—a lazy, voluptuous drifting through space. His body,

bent at the waist, is tilted forward from the ankles so that he lies almost parallel to his skis, streamlined against wind resistance.

Down below, the crowd waits, open-mouthed and silent. Devlin mentally gauging the size of the hill, very deliberately tilts his whole body forward by revolving his arms rhythmically, until his skis lie at the same angle as the snowy slope some thirty to fifty feet below him. Drifting toward the ground, in the descending trajectory of a spent bullet he prepares to straighten his body. His skis hit the hillside with a

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faint, splatting sound. Knees bent to absorb the shock of the landing, he glides through the saucer-shaped transition, where the hill loses its steepness, and out on the level. The performance ends with a Christiania turn that showers the audience with snow.

The tournament winner is the jumper who comes closest to the theoretical maximum of 240 points—an unattainable total which would require that all the judges give a man perfect scores for form and distance on both his jumps.

Hans Bjornstad, the Norwegian who won the last world championship in 1950, had 220.4; Devlin, the highest ranking among North American competitors, had 211.

Devlin was born September 7, 1923, the son of John Devlin, an automobile dealer at Lake Placid. At the age of five, using a cider barrel for a take-off, he started his jumping career, wearing overshoes instead of ski boots, and using rubber bands for bindings in ignorance of such refinements as steel cables. At the age of six he went off his first ski jump, a twenty-metre hill on the grounds of the Lake Placid Club. A twenty-metre hill is designed for a maximum jump of sixty-five feet. The great American and Canadian hills range in size from sixty metres (197 feet) to eighty metres (262 feet).

A twenty-metre jump would be peanuts to Devlin now, but at the time it infected him with the disease known as jump-happiness, which still afflicts him. Two years later a friend gave him his first pair of regulation jumping skis. These, somewhat larger than the skis used for down-mountain travel, are triple-grooved to give the jumper more steadiness. In rapid order, he

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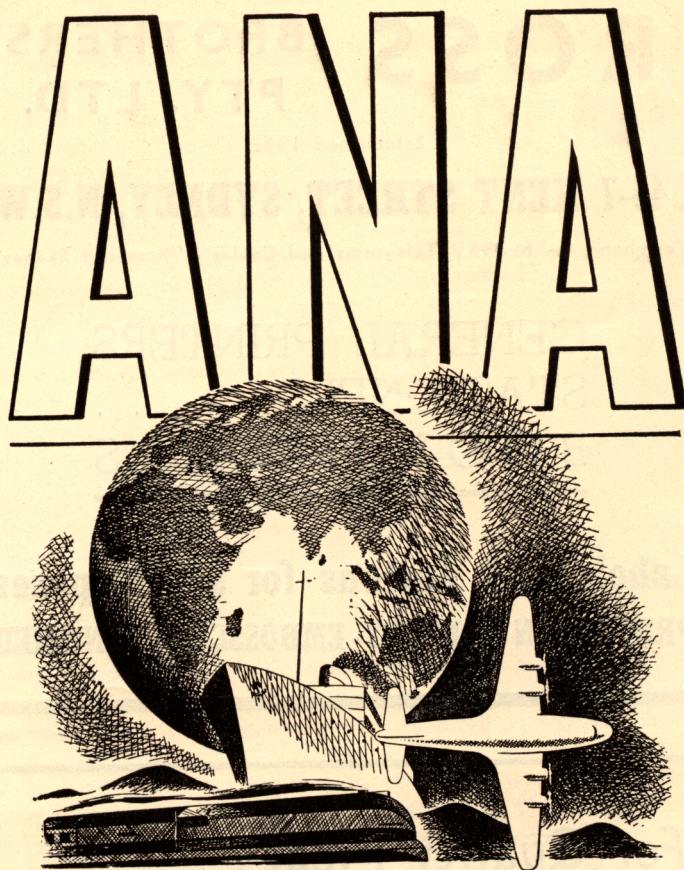
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progressed from the thirty-metre (ninety-eight foot) jump to the sixty-metre Olympic Hill at Intervales. His first jumps on the latter hill, executed when he was nine years old, were carried out surreptitiously. Officials of the Lake Placid Club, which had spent 100,000 dollars at Intervales, felt that Devlin was far too young to be endangering himself.

In 1950 he lost only two major tournaments — the national and the world championships at his home town, Lake Placid. He was sixth in the world championship, trailing five Scandinavians, but any man who finishes inside the first ten in this grueling jumping meet is regarded as an international "great." No other American in that tournament came near to equalling Devlin's marks for form and distance.

The world championships are held in alternate years, so he'll have no further opportunity until later this year to discover whether he is the best jumper on the globe.

OBITUARIES

A. J. MATTHEWS
Elected 26/8/1918;
Died 11/1/1952

R. G. TODMAN
Elected 19/6/1933
Died 9/1/1952.

A. C. BROWN
Elected 18/9/1916;
Died 15/1/1952.

J. I. EMANUEL
Elected 26/11/1945;
Died 20/1/1952.

A. WILLIAMS
Elected 10/4/1911;
Died 25/1/1952.

H. W. BUNCE
Elected 28/3/1940;
Died 28/1/1952.

W. M. JENNINGS
Elected 24/9/1928;
Died 4/2/1952.

The Magazine 21 Years Ago

Looking Back on Tattersall's Club

★ February, 1931

THE February, 1931, Magazine gave a summary of the Annual Report up to 28th February of that year. Despite the difficult times, the committee, by careful management, showed a profit for the year of £1,959, which was carried forward into the Profit Appropriation Account. We might remind ourselves occasionally that it is on the careful management of the committee of 21 years ago — or last year — or fifty-one years ago — that the present continuing well-being of our Club rests.

MEMBERSHIP at February, 1931, stood at 2,002; the first year that the two-thousand figure had been passed. This showed a steady increase from the time that the Club moved into the present premises, when membership was approximately 1,650.

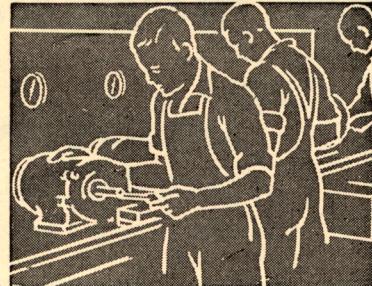
AMONG the advertisements was a full page for Tattersall's Club House Whisky—a specially imported Scotch. The price? . . . 12/- a bottle, 6/3 a flask.

THE grand old game of billiards was in the news. Eyes were on a young Australian marvel—Walter Lindrum. Mr. L. W. Hayes had just won the third

contest for the Empire Amateur Championship, adding this title to his Australian Championship win. He played an exhibition game in the Club against Bill Longworth, which he only just managed to win — actually Bill had the best break, 68.

IN the pool, point-score for February, 1931, was won by K. Hunter. A. Richards was leading for the Dewar Cup, with Hunter a close second. Feature of the month was a 220 yards handicap (they were giants in those days). The prize, presented by Mr. Scougall, had to be halved, as the final resulted in a grand dead-heat between "Pete" Hunter and Stan Carroll. A. Richards and John Dexter put up a great battle for third place, with Richards just making it.

THE Golf Club also presented its annual report—the first. Membership of this club-within-a-club stood at 173, under the presidency of T. G. Murray. Thirteen outings were held during the year, a very fair effort. Circumstances, particularly as they applied to the availability of city courses for the regular outings, were very different then from those ruling to-day.



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"Longshot"

R 15 — RANDWICK — R 15

Rails All Other Courses

DOUBLES ON ALL MAJOR EVENTS

RACING FIXTURES for 1952

FEBRUARY

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 23
(At Rosehill)

MARCH

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 1
(At Canterbury Park)

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 8
Sydney Turf Club Sat. 15
(At Canterbury Park)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 22
(At Rosehill)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 29
(At Rosehill)

APRIL

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 5

*Australian Jockey Club Sat. 12

*Australian Jockey Club Mon. 14

*Australian Jockey Club Wed. 16

*Australian Jockey Club Sat. 19

*Australian Jockey Club Sat. 26
(At Randwick)

MAY

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 3
(At Canterbury Park)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 10
(At Canterbury Park)

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 17
Tattersall's Club Sat. 24
(At Randwick)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 31
(At Rosehill)

JUNE

*Australian Jockey Club Sat. 7
*Australian Jockey Club Mon. 9
*(Winter Meeting)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 14
(At Rosehill)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 21
(At Canterbury Park)

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 28

JULY

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 5
Sydney Turf Club Sat. 12
(At Canterbury Park)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 19
(At Moorefield)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 26
(At Rosehill)

AUGUST

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 2
(At Rosehill)

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Mon. 4
(Bank Holiday Meeting)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 9
(At Canterbury Park)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 16
(At Canterbury Park)

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 23
Sydney Turf Club Sat. 30
(At Rosehill)

SEPTEMBER

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 6
(At Canterbury Park)

Tattersall's Club Sat. 13
(At Randwick)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 20
(At Rosehill)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 27
(At Rosehill)

OCTOBER

*Australian Jockey Club Sat. 4
*Australian Jockey Club Mon. 6

*Australian Jockey Club Wed. 8
*Australian Jockey Club Sat. 11
*(Spring Meeting)

City Tattersall's Club Sat. 18
(At Randwick)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 25
(At Canterbury Park)

NOVEMBER

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 1
(At Rosehill)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 8
(At Canterbury Park)

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 15

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 22

A.J.C. (Warwick Farm) Sat. 29

DECEMBER

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 6
(At Rosehill)

Sydney Turf Club Sat. 13
(At Rosehill)

*Australian Jockey Club Sat. 20

*Australian Jockey Club Fri. 26
*(Summer Meeting)

Tattersall's Club Sat. 27
(At Randwick)

SOFT BALL POLO

From Page 11

They dived back into the baths. They found two opposing players firmly clasped in each other's arms. Both were unconscious.

It was no doubt this same ruggedness that made the name of Joe Ruddy synonymous with the American brand of water polo. In their moods of retrospection, the old-timers tell, in hushed voices, of the occasion when Joe's team entered the last four minutes of the game with the score at one-all. When Joe, receiving the ball near his own goal, swam 75 feet under water. How, still beneath the surface, he fought off three opposing men to come up directly below the opposing side's goal. How, when he was taken to the bottom of the pool by the 'keeper in a scissors-hold, he fought there for glory and the New York Athletic Club.

And then, runs the saga, with the referee lifting his gun to mark the end of the game, a bald head shot to the surface and Joe made the goal . . . after being under water, fighting desperately, for three minutes and 12 seconds.

If the drama of Joe's epic performance is prompting you to race to the nearest game of water polo, bear in mind this fact; that the American code of the game differs greatly from the Australian. If, indeed, Joe had attempted to perpetrate his act under our rules — and, incidentally, the international rules — he would have found himself standing in a chastened mood at the side of the baths. For, apart from the fact that Joe used a soft rubber ball that could conceivably be stuffed inside his swimming costume while he fought it out, the true game of water polo does not permit of a player holding the ball under the water when tackled.

The origin of the game in Australia is a little obscure, but Harold Hardwick, former Olympic swimmer and boxer, recalls that it was being played around the 1900's.

"Then, however, there was no competition, and the matches were simply exhibitions. Among the best players of the day were Jim Hellings, of Bondi, "Snowy" and Harald Baker, of East Sydney, and the Rubiana Islander who introduced the crawl stroke, Aleck Wickham," says this great all-round sportsman.

"Wickham, the most natural waterman I have ever seen, had a trick of throwing the ball many yards ahead over the head of an opponent, diving beneath the water and beating his man to it without coming to the surface. But I do not remember anyone actually carrying the ball with him beneath the water in the manner of Ruddy. Even in those

days, the rules forbade such an action, and in any case the leather ball would have made it impossible.

"Still, players got away with more rough play then than they can to-day."

It was not until 1921 that the nursery city of the game, Sydney, began regular water polo competition. Melbourne quickly followed, and since 1928, interstate fixtures have been maintained. It is a tribute to the staying power of water polo players that one of the players in that first match, E. Lynott, is still a member of the Victorian team.

Water polo has not yet become a great spectator-sport in Australia, and a reason for this is submitted by E. Berge Phillips, himself a first-grade player who managed the Australian team in Europe.

"Swimming overshadows water polo here," he says, "and the game is almost incidental to a swimming carnival. But in Europe, we played to packed houses. Four thousand spectators saw Australia play the Netherlands in the Zuyder Zee."

New international rules now operate that will streamline water polo, so that speed becomes even more important and "bullocking play" minimised. You can't, for instance, swim across a player after the referee blows his whistle, thus shepherding him from the ball. But all in all, the game will be pretty much the same, and the referee take the hindmost. You can still jump from the floor of the baths to tackle an opponent; sink him when he isn't in possession of the ball; get a push-off from an opponent or swim on his shoulders—you can do all these things—if the referee's attention is engaged elsewhere. But if he's looking — well, that'll probably be you, brother, standing at the side of the baths.

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PICTURE OF THE MONTH



True Leader Gives Arthur Greenhalgh Popular Win in 'Challenge'

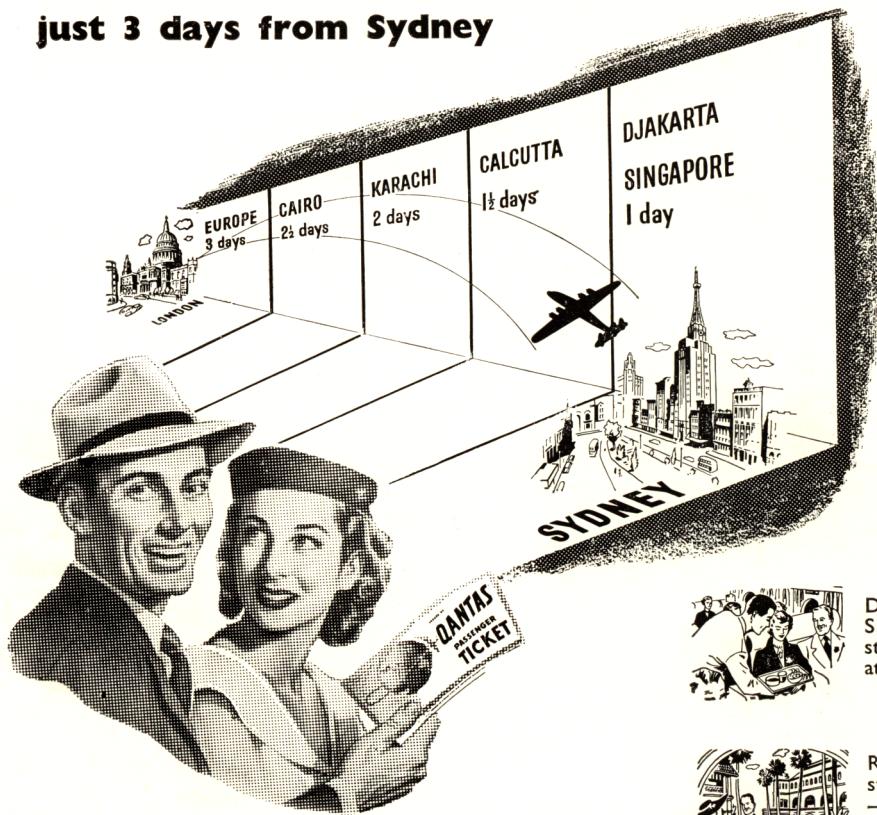
True Leader, carrying 8st. 5lbs., won the Challenge Stakes at Randwick on January 26, 1952, by a length and a quarter from Blue Flag with Chastise third. Pictured here with Ken Barratt up, True Leader is a chestnut gelding by Squadron Leader out of Evertrue.

(Photo., courtesy "Sydney Morning Herald")

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